

Selection Test

The Tragedy of Macbeth, Act V William Shakespeare

Pupil's Edition page 370

Comprehension (40 points; 5 points each)On the line provided, write the letter of the *best* answer to each of the following items.

- _____ 1. The gentlewoman in Scene 1 refuses to repeat Lady Macbeth's sleep-talk to the doctor because
a. the words are mumbled and impossible to understand
b. Lady Macbeth forbade her to reveal the murders to anyone
c. there is no witness to confirm the truth of the gentlewoman's words
d. she thinks that only the doctor will believe her
- _____ 2. The "damned spot" to which Lady Macbeth refers is
a. Macbeth's predicament
b. a beleaguered castle
c. Birnam Wood
d. Duncan's bloodstain
- _____ 3. Macbeth tries to reassure himself that Malcolm and Macduff are not a threat to him because they
a. are far away in England
b. do not have the military power that he has
c. have fled because of fear
d. are both "of woman born"
- _____ 4. As Macbeth's anxiety grows, he commands the doctor to
a. let Lady Macbeth rest for a few days
b. cure Lady Macbeth
c. medicate Lady Macbeth with hemlock
d. analyze Lady Macbeth's ramblings
- _____ 5. Macbeth's reaction to his wife's death shows that he
a. thinks life is a meaningless path to death
b. is anguished because he cares about her deeply
c. expects to win the battle without her support
d. understands why she incited him to murder and then went mad
- _____ 6. Macduff declares that he must kill Macbeth because
a. the witches predicted that he would
b. no one else can conquer Macbeth
c. he must avenge his family members' murders
d. Macbeth otherwise will win the battle
- _____ 7. Macbeth finally realizes that the witches and apparitions
a. told him the truth
b. were figments of his imagination
c. were committed to his best interests
d. deceived him with ambiguous messages

- _____ 8. The play ends with the thanes acknowledging who as Scotland's new and lawful king?
- a. Macduff
 - b. Ross
 - c. Donalbain
 - d. Malcolm

Literary Element: Imagery and Figurative Language (20 points; 10 points each)

On the line provided, write the letter of the *best* answer to each of the following items.

- _____ 9. All of the following images occur repeatedly in the play **except**
- a. eggs
 - b. daggers
 - c. woods
 - d. children
- _____ 10. Which of the following quotations from the play contains figurative language?
- a. "Look, how she rubs her hands."
 - b. "Of all men else I have avoided thee."
 - c. "Life's but a walking shadow."
 - d. "Of this dead butcher and his fiendlike queen . . ."

Cast of Characters (10 points; 2 points each)

Several characters in Act V make revelations. Match each revelation described in the left-hand column to a character in the right-hand column. Write the letter of the character on the line provided.

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| _____ 11. reveals murders of Lady Macduff and the King | a. Seyton |
| _____ 12. reveals that Lady Macbeth has hallucinations | b. Lady Macbeth |
| _____ 13. reveals that Lady Macbeth is dead | c. the Messenger |
| _____ 14. reveals that Birnam Wood is approaching the castle | d. the Doctor |
| _____ 15. reveals that his supporters will be made Earls | e. Malcolm |

Written Response (30 points)

16. Are the deaths of Lady Macbeth, Young Siward, and Macbeth in Act V inevitable? Choose one of these three characters. On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph describing the circumstances of his or her death, and explain whether you think the death was or was not inevitable and why.

The Tragedy of Macbeth, Act V

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Comprehension

1. c 2. d 3. d 4. b 5. a
6. c 7. d 8. d

Literary Element

9. a 10. c

Cast of Characters

11. b 12. d 13. a 14. c 15. e

Written Response

16. Responses will vary. In a model response, students should fulfill the following criteria:
- demonstrate understanding of the prompt
 - choose Lady Macbeth, Young Siward, or Macbeth, and describe the circumstances of his or her death. For example:
 - Lady Macbeth is driven mad by her guilt and dies; Macbeth hears women wailing over her death, and then Seyton tells him the queen is dead.
 - Young Siward dies a noble death; he is slain while fighting and is an admired, fearless soldier.
 - Macduff slays Macbeth in the field after revealing that he, Macduff, was “untimely” taken from his mother’s womb.

- explain why the death was or was not inevitable. For example:
- Lady Macbeth probably would have died by Macbeth’s hand if not by her own; she likely would have begun confessing to everyone to assuage her guilt.
- It seems inevitable that the earl of Northumberland, who remains unscathed until the very end of the play, would suffer as well by the death of his son, Young Siward.
- It seems as if every element of the play leads to Macbeth’s inevitable death. He has committed crimes against nature as well as against human beings. Shakespeare’s many references to agitation in the supernatural and natural worlds make clear that powerful forces will ensure Macbeth’s demise.
- support their ideas with at least two examples from Act V (previous examples are sufficient)

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1. c 2. b 3. d 4. b 5. c
6. c 7. b 8. b 9. c 10. d

Collection 5: The Power of the Word

Of Studies and Axioms

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Comprehension

1. c 2. d 3. b 4. b 5. c
6. d

Reading Skills and Strategies

7. a 8. c 9. c

Literary Element

10. c 11. a

Written Response

12. Responses will vary. In a model response, students should fulfill the following criteria:
- demonstrate understanding of the prompt
 - defend or refute Bacon’s assertion that “To spend too much time in studies is sloth. . . .”
 - write a response in a logical sequence of parallel sentences that is similar to Bacon’s style

- use at least two examples from the selections to support their ideas. For example:
- According to Bacon, gardens are one of the finest human pleasures, and the pleasures of studying should not exclude the enjoyment of gardens. Bacon also recommends friendship as a pleasure that is as important as the joy of studying.

from *Genesis*

SELECTION TEST, page 71

Comprehension

1. a 2. a 3. d 4. b 5. c
6. c 7. d

Literary Element

8. b 9. c